

HONORING THE CAREER OF MRS.  
RAMONA CORTÉS GARZA

**HON. TED LIEU**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 25, 2018*

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the retirement of Ramona Cortés Garza, who served as the Executive Director of State Government Relations for the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). During her 30 years of service with UCLA, Ramona used her experience and expertise to be a true advocate and leader for the University as well as a compassionate ambassador to the community.

Ramona's professional career at UCLA began in 1988, where she served as the Director of Outreach Programming within Public Affairs for the UCLA Alumni Association. After only two years in that role, she was promoted to Director of Community Outreach. Three years later she became Director of Community Relations. During her time at the UCLA Alumni Association, she founded the Summer Youth Employment and Training Program (SYETP), where she worked to help teens in underserved communities of Los Angeles obtain summer jobs at UCLA. SYETP is a federally-funded program by the Jobs Training Partnership Act through the City of Los Angeles. Through this program, youth are given the opportunity to gain invaluable work experience as well as educational enrichment. Additionally, Ramona spearheaded the Community Directory Initiative, which gave people access to the considerable resources that UCLA has to offer.

Ramona transitioned to UCLA Government and Community Relations after over a decade at the UCLA Alumni Association, where she served as the Executive Director of State Government Relations for two decades. She formed essential relationships that helped advocate for the University to get their state priorities fulfilled including getting critical funding through the state budget. Ramona also led her team in hosting candidate forums and legislator visits to campus, coordinating district office meetings with legislative staff, and organizing advocacy days in Sacramento with legislators where she stressed the impact of their funding decisions on UCLA's future. She empowered student interns to help organize events, including advocacy workshops and panels covering various issues affecting UCLA, and tirelessly dedicated her time to mentor others, sharing her wisdom, knowledge, skills and expertise.

Ramona also worked to establish the César E. Chávez Department of Chicana and Chicano Studies at UCLA throughout her career. What started out as a small research center has grown and flourished into a nationally-recognized department that studies the historic experiences and cultural traditions of Los Angeles' largest and most prominent demographic. The Department has also been essential in fortifying the University's relationship with the Mexican-American community, which is integral to the history and future of my district.

Ramona was a recipient of many university achievements and awards, including the

"Woman of the Year" award by the Los Angeles County Commission for Women for her advocacy role on behalf of higher education.

Outside of her work with UCLA, Ramona still found time to help her community as an Educational Advisory Board member of the Hispanic American Committee for Educational Resources (HACER) of the Ronald McDonald House Charities, which gives young people the opportunity to pursue higher fields of study regardless of financial circumstances.

Ramona's legacy is marked by the enduring and meaningful relationships she forged with the community, legislators, external organizations, student interns, fellow staff members, and campus departments for the benefit of the students, faculty, and alumni of one of the world's leading research universities and through the work of those she mentored.

After retiring, Ramona will continue to be an active member of the community and an advocate for those that are underserved in education. I wish Ramona and her family many years of happiness and good health.

HONORING MR. MIKE STUTZ ON  
THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT  
FROM THE GULF CALIFORNIA  
BROADCAST COMPANY

**HON. RAUL RUIZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 25, 2018*

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Mike Stutz on his retirement as General Manager of KESQ, CBS Local 2, and KUNA Noticias at Gulf California Broadcast Company in Thousand Palms, California.

During his esteemed career, Mr. Stutz always sought the truth throughout his accomplished career in journalism. He has overseen newsrooms in cities across the country—in St. Louis, Missouri; Jacksonville, Florida; Denver, Colorado; and San Diego, California. In his most recent position, he oversaw television and radio news stations across the Coachella Valley, directing the operations of diverse and bilingual news departments that inform my constituents and connect them with their communities.

Along the way, Mr. Stutz has won many national awards for excellence in journalism, including two Edward R. Murrow Awards for Overall Excellence and a National Headline Award. His success is a testament to his trust in his reporters, commitment to holding power accountable, and above all, his dedication to the thousands of viewers who have looked to his newsrooms to stay informed about the issues and events that matter most.

Mr. Stutz is also a cancer survivor, and since winning his battle against the disease, he has served on the Board of the Leadership, Council of the American Cancer Society in Palm Springs. He has dedicated himself to his community in service to this and other organizations, serving on the Boards of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Coachella Valley, the FIND Food Bank, and the N H & Frances C. Berger Foundation.

Mr. Stutz's generosity to his community and tenacity as a reporter have brought light to the

lives of so many in our community. In retirement, I am confident he will continue to share his wisdom—as well as spend some well-deserved time with his wife Ellen, three sons Tim, Teddy, and Andy, and five grandchildren.

On behalf of the thousands of Coachella Valley residents who have come to rely on the products of his journalistic leadership, I congratulate Mr. Mike Stutz on reaching this milestone, and I wish him a long and happy retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT  
OF MR. CHRISTOPHER L. BORTON

**HON. LOU BARLETTA**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 25, 2018*

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor to congratulate Mr. Christopher L. Borton upon his retirement after a rewarding 40-year career in engineering.

A lifelong resident of Luzerne County and graduate of Central Catholic High School and Pennsylvania State University, Mr. Borton has dedicated his career to dutifully serving his community, and the Commonwealth as a whole.

Since founding Borton-Lawson in 1988, Mr. Borton has worked tirelessly with his colleagues to build this architecture and engineering company into a successful 170-person operation through "thoughtful leadership."

Borton-Lawson began initially as Borton Engineering Associates, Inc., with the intent of solely providing civil engineering services, but quickly added structural engineering to the company's portfolio through a partnership with Thomas Lawson later that year. From there, Borton-Lawson continued to grow and eventually expanded into a full-service engineering and architecture design firm by 2000.

In addition to his duties as CEO of Borton-Lawson, Mr. Borton serves as both a state and national director for the American Council of Engineering Companies. He is also a leader within numerous community and professional organizations, including the Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance Business Finance Corp, of which he is treasurer, and Misericordia University, where he serves as the Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

Throughout his illustrious career, Mr. Borton has served in several philanthropic roles, such as Chairman of the United Way of Wyoming Valley. Further, prior to starting at Borton-Lawson, Mr. Borton was an integral part of the flood recovery efforts throughout Wilkes-Barre and Johnston, PA, as well as Baltimore, Maryland.

Mr. Borton and his wife of 38 years, Karen, who met on a flood recovery cleanup trip in 1972, have passed on this caring mindset to their three children, Karl, Kate and Sarah. Mr. Borton's career is truly an inspiration to all young engineers and a reminder of the attainability of the American dream through hard work.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing Mr. Borton for all that he has done for the Luzerne County and Pennsylvania communities and congratulate him on this new chapter in his life.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY  
OF MS. FELICIA KAHN

**HON. CEDRIC L. RICHMOND**

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 25, 2018*

Mr. RICHMOND. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of Ms. Felicia Kahn, a political activist for nearly 70 years who tirelessly fought for an array of causes, especially those that benefited women, and minorities. Ms. Kahn died on June 21, 2018 at the age of 91.

Ms. Kahn, who cast her first vote for Harry Truman when he won the presidency in 1948, worked last year in LaToya Cantrell's successful mayoral campaign. Ms. Kahn's work on Cantrell's campaign occurred shortly after she attended her tenth Democratic National Convention in 2016. At age 90, she was the second oldest delegate.

Ms. Felicia Schornstein was born on July 11, 1926. She graduated from Newman School and Newcomb College, where she majored in sociology. While in college, she joined the League of Women Voters of New Orleans and helped register women to vote.

After graduation, Ms. Kahn gained a job with the city Welfare Department, where she witnessed the problems stemming from segregation. She supported the integration of the league, and she worked with Betty Wisdom to create Carrolton Central, an organization that helped low-income residents in that part of the city get the services they needed.

Ms. Kahn left her city job when she married Mr. Charles N. Kahn, Jr., but she remained active in politics, serving as president of the League of Women Voters and as a board member.

Ms. Kahn, who became a real estate agent, worked in political campaigns and joined the league in lobbying for passage of the Equal Right Amendment. She also was a member of the Historic District Landmarks Commission and the Central Business District Landmarks Commission.

Ms. Khan was a member of the National Council of Jewish Women, the Independent Women's Organization, the New Orleans Coalition, the National Women's Political Caucus, Common Cause, the Alliance of Concerned Taxpayers, and the Alliance for Affordable Energy.

Ms. Kahn ran unsuccessfully twice for a seat in the state House of Representatives, but she represented Louisiana as a delegate to the National Women's Conference in Houston in 1977. She was a member of the Democratic State Central Committee, and the state Democratic Party gave her a Lifetime Achievement Award in 2016.

Ms. Kahn was a giant in the city of New Orleans, and her work and passion gained her admiration throughout the country. One was never confused about her values or priorities, she was always in pursuit of the upward mobility and wellness of everyone. With her death, we lost a champion for the advancement of women, and our commitment should be to carry on that work with the same determination and vigor.

We will miss Ms. Kahn's passion and vitality. Our city and the nation is better off because of the work she carried out each day.

Ms. Khan is survived by her son, Charles N. "Chip" Kahn III of Arlington, Va; two daugh-

ters, Elizabeth Kahn of New Orleans and Felicia Kahn Michelson of Atlanta; a brother, Richard Schornstein of New Orleans; and three grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I celebrate the life and legacy of Ms. Felicia Kahn.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JOHN K. DELANEY**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 25, 2018*

Mr. DELANEY. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to cast my vote on roll call No. 287 & No. 288. Had I been present to vote on roll call No. 287, I would have voted 'Yea'. Had I been present to vote on roll call No. 288, I would have voted 'Yea'.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 25, 2018*

Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to cast my vote for Roll Call votes 269, 270, and 271 on June 19, 2018. Had I been present, my vote would have been the following: Yea on Roll Call vote 269, Yea on Roll Call vote 270, and Yea on Roll Call vote 271.

HONORING THE CAREER OF DR.  
PATRICK MASON

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 25, 2018*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Patrick Mason who is retiring as president and CEO of the California Foundation on the Environment and the Economy (CFEE) after more than 30 years of service. Dr. Mason is a legend in the field of environmental and economic policy.

Since 1984, Dr. Mason directed all foundation activities, including strategic planning, issues development, conferences and study travel projects. Under three decades of his direction, CFEE has been instrumental in making California a world leader in renewable energy, water conservation, and telecommunications.

Initiated in 1970, CFEE established itself as an independent, nonprofit institution that works to forge consensus on environmental, transportation, and economic growth issues. The foundation creates collaboration between state lawmakers and agencies, business, labor, and academic and community leaders in California.

Dr. Mason, who earned his Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Colorado Boulder in 1978, served as president of the San Francisco Chapter of the National Association of Business Economist, director of the California Security Bank, and ran an active consulting practice as a forensic economist.

Dr. Mason's many achievements include working as a research economist and re-

search director for the California Labor Federation at the AFL-CIO. Also, he was the chief economist for the Association of Bay Area.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Dr. Patrick Mason as he begins a new chapter in his life. Dr. Mason's dedication and commitment over the last 30 years has left a lasting impact at CFEE. I wish he and his family continued health and happiness.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. MARK SANFORD**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 25, 2018*

Mr. SANFORD. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to attend votes, as my flight back to Washington was delayed by five hours due to weather. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 269; YEA on Roll Call No. 270; and YEA on Roll Call No. 271.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT  
OF COLUMBIA ZONING COMMISSION HOME RULE ACT

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 25, 2018*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the District of Columbia Zoning Commission Home Rule Act. This bill would give the District of Columbia the authority to appoint all members of the D.C. Zoning Commission (Commission). Currently, the Commission consists of two federal officials (the Architect of the Capitol (AOC) and the Director of the National Park Service (NPS), or their designees) and three mayoral appointees, subject to D.C. Council approval. The federal officials are members even though the Commission has no authority over federal property.

Land use is a quintessential local matter in our country. Despite the D.C. Home Rule Act, which gave the District jurisdiction over its local matters, 40 percent of the members of the Commission are federal officials, who are unaccountable to the more than 700,000 residents who live in the District. The federal government would lose nothing as a result of this bill because the federal government's land-use interests in the nation's capital are protected by federal law and federal agencies.

The Commission creates the zoning maps and regulations, which must "not be inconsistent with the comprehensive plan for the national capital." The mayor is responsible for the local elements of the comprehensive plan, subject to D.C. Council approval. The National Capital Planning Commission (NCPCC), which is the central federal planning agency for the federal government in D.C. and approves federal projects here, is responsible for the federal elements of the comprehensive plan. This bill would not alter the comprehensive plan process or the authority of NCPCC and the Commission.

This bill would immediately remove the AOC and the Director of the NPS from the Commission, and the Commission would, at least initially, consist solely of the three mayoral appointees. The District would have the authority